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                         UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
                                    FOR THE
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                          MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
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     DREW ADAMS, a minor,
 4
                Plaintiff,
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           vs.
                               )Civil Action
 6
                               ) No.3:17-cv-00739-TJC-JBT
     THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ST. )
 7
     JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA,
                Defendant.
 8
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11
12
           VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF PAUL W. HRUZ, M.D., Ph.D
                          Taken on behalf of Plaintiff
13
14
                              November 20, 2017
15
             (Starting time of the deposition: 8:58 a.m.)
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                                                          Pl. Trial Ex. 090
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Page 2 1 INDEX OF EXAMINATION 2 3 Page 4 Questions by Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan 7 Questions by Mr. Kostelnik 286 5 6 Further Questions by Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan 292 7 8 INDEX OF **EXHIBITS** 9 EXHIBIT **PAGE** DESCRIPTION 10 For the Plaintiff: 11 Exhibit 1 Subpoena 11 29 Exhibit 2 Expert Declaration 12 29 Exhibit 3 Growing Pains Article Exhibit 4 Letter 68 163 13 Exhibit 5 Article 231 Exhibit 6 Article 14 Exhibit 7 Article 246 Exhibit 8 Article 249 15 16 (The original exhibits were retained by the court reporter, to be attached to Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan's 17 transcript.) 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

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     JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA,
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               Defendants.
                              )
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               VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF WITNESS, PAUL W.
11
     HRUZ, M.D., Ph.D., produced, sworn, and examined on
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     the 20th day of November, 2017, between the hours of
13
     nine o'clock in the forenoon and six o'clock in the
     evening of that day, at the offices of Veritext Legal
14
15
     Solutions, 515 Olive Street, Suite 300, St. Louis,
16
     Missouri before BRENDA ORSBORN, a Certified Court
17
     Reporter within and for the State of Missouri, in a
18
     certain cause now pending in the United States
19
     District Court for the Middle District of Florida,
20
     wherein Drew Adams, a minor, is the Plaintiff and The
21
     School Board of St. Johns County, Florida is the
22
     Defendant.
23
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	Page 4
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IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and between counsel for Plaintiffs and counsel for Defendants that the VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF PAUL W. HRUZ, M.D., Ph.D., may be taken in shorthand by Brenda Orsborn, a Certified Court Reporter, and afterwards transcribed into typewriting; and the signature of the witness is expressly not waived.

* * * * *

VIDEOGRAPHER: Good morning. We're going on the record at 8:58 a.m. on Monday, November 20th, 2017. Please note that the microphones are sensitive and may pick up whispering and private conversations and cellular interference. Please turn off all cell phones or place them away from the microphones as they can interfere with the deposition audio. Audio and video recording will continue to take place unless all parties agree to go off the record.

This is Media Unit No. 1 of the video recorded deposition of Dr. Paul Hruz, taken by counsel for the Plaintiffs in the matter of Drew Adams versus the School Board of St. Johns County, Florida, filed in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida. This deposition is being held at Veritext Legal Solutions, located at 515 Olive Street in St. Louis, Missouri.

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Page 6 1 My name is Kimberlee Lauer from Veritext, 2 and I'm the videographer. Our court reporter is 3 Brenda Orsborn, also from Veritext. I am not authorized to administer an oath. I am not related to 4 5 any party in this action. Nor am I financially 6 interested in the outcome. 7 Counsel and all present in the room and 8 everyone attending remotely will now please state your 9 appearances and affiliations for the record, and if 10 there are any objections to proceeding, please state 11 them at the time of your appearance beginning, please, 12 with the noticing attorney. 13 MR. GONZALEZ-PAGAN: Thank vou. 14 Gonzalez-Pagan of Lambda Legal for the Plaintiff. 15 MS. RIVAUX: Good morning. Shani Rivaux 16 with Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman, on behalf of the 17 Plaintiff. 18 MR. KOSTELNIK: Good morning, Kevin 19 Kostelnik of Sniffen & Spellman on behalf of the 20 Defendant. 21 THE WITNESS: Paul Hruz --22 MR. HARMON: And this is Terry Harmon on the 23 phone, as well, for the Defendant. 24 THE WITNESS: And Paul Hruz, pediatric 25 endocrinologist, witness for the defense.

Page 7 1 DR. PAUL HRUZ, 2 of lawful age, being produced, sworn and examined on behalf of the Plaintiff, deposes and says: 3 **EXAMINATION** 4 5 OUESTIONS BY MR. GONZALEZ-PAGAN: 6 All right. Dr. Hruz, thank you for being 7 I know you're a busy man. As you're here today. 8 aware, I represent Drew Adams, the Plaintiff in this 9 litigation, and I'll be asking some questions about 10 your opinions in this case today. I just want to go 11 over some ground rules just to get started. First, do 12 you understand that you're under oath today? 13 Yes, I do. Α. 14 And that -- that this requires to testify Q. truthfully? 15 16 Α. Yes, I do. 17 We cannot be speaking at the same time. 0. will be annoying to the court reporter. It will make 18 19 it difficult for you to hear me, me to hear you. 20 please let me finish a question before you start 21 answering it, and I'll strive to do the same as well, 22 and let you finish answering before I go into another 23 question. Is that agreed? 24 Α. Very good. Yes. 25 If you don't understand something I ask, Q.

Page 17 1 identity, a gender identity, that does not correspond 2 with their sex. 3 Q. Okay. So now understanding that term, I ask you, would you agree with me that there are 4 5 transgender people? 6 I would agree that there are individuals 7 that have a gender identity that does not match their 8 sex. 9 Q. Okay. Have you met with Drew Adams? I have not. 10 Α. 11 Did you request to meet with Drew Adams? Q. 12 Α. I did not. 13 Did anyone tell you you could not meet with 0. 14 Drew Adams? 15 Α. No. 16 0. Have you evaluated Drew Adams? 17 Α. Clarify what you mean by "evaluate." 18 Q. As a doctor, you conduct evaluations of your 19 patients. 20 So I have not participated in the medical Α. 21 care of Drew Adams. 22 Okay. So you have not treated Drew Adams **Q**. 23 either? 24 That is correct. Α. 25 And you haven't examined him, medically Q.

Page 18 1 examined Drew Adams either? 2 Α. I have never met him. 3 0. Did you ask for an independent medical examination? 4 5 Α. I did not. 6 Have you ever met with either of Drew Adams' 0. 7 parents? 8 Α. I have not. 9 Have you spoken with any of Drew Adams' 0. treating physicians? 10 11 I'm -- I'm just trying to see if -- if the 12 ones that were listed, if I've ever met them at a 13 meeting. I've never spoke with them directly related 14 to this case, no. 15 So if you've spoken to any of the doctors, 0. 16 okay, you have never spoken with them about Drew 17 Adams? 18 MR. KOSTELNIK: Form. 19 Α. That is correct. 20 Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) Did anyone advise you that you could not speak to Drew Adams' treating 21 physicians? 22 23 Α. No. 24 Do you believe that speaking with Drew 25 Adams' treating physicians would have enabled you to

Page 22 1 physiological definition. 2 He is post-pubertal, and that's how I Α. define --3 So you consider him an adult? 4 **Q**. 5 Α. No, I do not. So what -- what -- what would you consider 6 0. 7 Drew Adams, then? 8 I would consider him a post-pubertal female Α. 9 who identifies as a -- a male. 10 Is it safe to say you consider him a Q. 11 post-pubertal teenager? 12 Α. Yes. 13 You said from a legal standpoint. From a 0. 14 legal standpoint, is Drew Adams an adolescent? 15 Α. He has not reached the age of 18. 16 Ο. And you -- just to clarify, you just stated 17 that Drew is post-pubescent, correct? 18 MR. KOSTELNIK: Form. 19 Α. Post-pubertal. 20 Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) Let me just rephrase 21 that, because that was a form objection. Is Drew 22 Adams post-pubertal? 23 Drew Adams is post-pubertal. 24 Would you agree that Drew Adams is Q. 25 transgender?

- A. I -- as I said earlier, he is a biological female that identifies as a male. By that definition, he would qualified as a transgender individual.
 - Q. Is Drew a transgender boy?
- A. Again, you have to be very careful when you make the designation. The -- the terminology that is often used right now would classify him as a transgendered male.
- Q. If Drew told you he was a boy, would you accept that?

MR. KOSTELNIK: Form.

- A. It would depend on what he was asking in terms of that, if he was asking about his gender identity or his biology. If he was asking about whether he was biologically male or female, I would say that he's biologically female.
- Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) And if he told you that his gender identity was male?
 - A. I would take him at his word.
- Q. If Drew told you he uses male pronouns, would you use male pronouns?
- A. My practice is to use as much respect as I can and within the confines of scientific and biological reality, I would not have [sic] not an objection to be able to identify him as he wished.

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- Q. So is that a "yes" or a "no"?
- A. That is a -- to make sure I understand the question again, please address it again.
 - Q. If Drew asked you to use male pronouns, would you use male pronouns?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. In your practice -- and I take it you've been practicing for several years, so in your practice, how many transgender patients have you treated in the past five years?
- A. As stated explicitly in my declaration, I intentionally do not treat transgender patients.
 - Q. At all?
 - A. That is correct.
 - Q. In any -- for any treatment?
- A. Oh, the ones that I'm aware of, I have not encountered any patients that have presented to me as transgendered for any other conditions. I have certainly encountered many patients where that was something under consideration or something that I suspected, but nobody has ever mentioned directly to me that they were transgendered.
- Q. Okay. So to your knowledge, you have not treated any person that you knew was transgender?

MR. KOSTELNIK: Form.

- A. Well, again, if you would -- yeah, that is true for -- for the -- the patient -- somebody like Drew Adams that was biologically normal. I have certainly cared for hundreds of patients that have disorders of sexual development. Many practitioners will include those in that designation. I believe that they are a completely different patient population than Drew Adams.
- Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) What is gender dysphoria?
- A. Gender dysphoria is the discomfort that one experiences related to gender identity that does not conform with one's biological sex.
 - Q. Is that the definition in the DSM?
 - A. Yes.

- Q. It uses the word "discomfort"?
- A. I'd have to go look back at the exact wording of that. It's the difficulty that they experience, psychological difficulty with that, yes.
- Q. Okay. And based on your testimony, would you agree that you have not treated any transgender patients for gender dysphoria?
 - A. Yes, I would agree.
- Q. Would you agree that Drew's treating physicians have diagnosed him with gender dysphoria?

Page 26 1 Α. I would agree, yes. 2 Would you agree that Drew Adams suffers from 0. 3 gender dysphoria? Based on the information presented to me, I 4 Α. 5 would accept that. I have nothing to dispute that. 6 What do you understand gender-affirming 7 treatment to mean? 8 MR. KOSTELNIK: Form. 9 Α. So gender-affirming treatment? 10 Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) Yes. 11 Α. That is the treatment paradigm that rather 12 than challenging the discrepancy between biological 13 sex and gender identity, it is affirmed and validated 14 in the individual, his -- encouraged in that 15 transgendered identity. 16 Q. So I just want to clarify a little bit, 17 because you used different words there for what's 18 being -- you said not challenge, correct? 19 That is correct. Α. 20 Q. You said that it's accepted, that they accept the gender identity of the --21 22 Α. And -- and I would say even encourage. 23 So that's where I was going. Q. 24 Α. Yes. 25 So you think not challenging is the same as Q.

the person putting forward this clinic and trying to understand what care that was being proposed to be provided in the setting of that context in my role as the director of our -- or the chief of our division of endocrinology.

- Q. Just to be clear, though, you have never sat in a meeting between a provider and a patient discussing their treatment options for gender dysphoria?
- A. That is correct, I've never been in the room with a patient while that care is being discussed.
- Q. All right. Would you agree that Drew Adams' doctors have concluded that gender-affirming treatment is appropriate treatment for him?
 - A. That is what they concluded, yes.
- Q. Would you agree that Drew Adams' doctors have concluded that the gender-affirming treatment has been helpful to Drew?
- A. I believe that that's what they claim, yes.
 - Q. Do you agree that Drew Adams' gender-affirming treatment has been beneficial for him?
- A. It depends on what you mean by beneficial.

 I think that it is far too early to know what the

 long-term outcome -- outcomes are going to be from

 what is being provided for Drew Adams.

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Q. As we stand here today, has the gender-affirming treatment been beneficial to Drew with regards to his gender dysphoria?

MR. KOSTELNIK: Object to form.

- A. So similar to the literature that has already been published in this area, Drew, by the reports that I've read, is experiencing a -- a lessening of the dysphoria in relation to the gender discordance, and I would say that based on the information that I saw, the answer is yes.
- Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) As we stand here today, do you agree that Drew Adams' gender-affirming treatment has improved his quality of life?
- A. So again, I can't say with certainty what actually has improved his quality of life. I can say, based on the record, that he is better adjusted than previously.
- 18 Q. Dr. Hruz, you're an endocrinologist,
 19 correct?
- 20 A. That is correct.
 - Q. You're not a psychiatrist, correct?
- 22 A. That is correct.
- 23 Q. You're not a psychologist?
- 24 A. That is correct.
- Q. Are you a licensed mental healthcare

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provider of any kind?

- A. I am not.
- Q. Can you diagnose gender dysphoria?
- A. I can -- I can diagnose gender dysphoria to the extent that my colleagues, as pediatric endocrinologists, follow the DSM-5 and look at the criteria and put the check boxes there. That is the extent of what my colleagues, as pediatric endocrinologists, do, and I'm just as capable of doing that as they are.
- Q. As an endocrinologist, do you routinely diagnose conditions in the DSM-5?
- A. I -- I do not -- well, let me -- I'm trying -- the reason I'm waiting is I'm trying to think as I put in my ICD9 codes in my visits, I do believe that I've actually added them, but I do not consider myself as a psychiatrist to making those diagnoses, no.
- Q. Do you have any basis to know whether Drew Adams has suffered distress as a result of being denied access to the restroom consistent with his gender identity?
- A. I can only evaluate what is contained within his patient chart and the literature -- or the information that was provided to me.

exact basis of that cannot be determined with -- in the context of what the medical record shows.

Q. Again, having reviewed the medical records, is there anything in the medical records that leads you to believe that Drew Adams' anxiety cannot be attributed in part to his being denied access to the restroom consistent with his gender identity?

MR. KOSTELNIK: Form.

- A. There are certainly entries in the medical record that indicate that his treating providers believed that that was a contributing factor. Whether that was or was not true, I don't have a basis to judge.
- Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) Okay. Do you agree that Drew Adams feels stigmatized as a result of being denied access to the restroom consistent with his gender identity?

MR. KOSTELNIK: Form.

- A. My understanding from what I've read is that he does make that claim.
- Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) Do you agree that Drew Adams' gender dysphoria is exacerbated as a result of his being denied access to the restroom consistent with his gender identity?
 - A. I can state that that claim has been made,

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Page 46 1 not -- not proven. 2 Do you have any basis to dispute the claim? 3 Α. No. Having never met, evaluated, examined or 4 Q. 5 treated Drew Adams, can you offer an opinion regarding 6 Drew Adams specifically? 7 MR. KOSTELNIK: Form. 8 My opinions in this case are based upon a Α. 9 review of the medical literature and in the condition 10 itself, and that is what I am offering to the court in 11 my serving as an expert witness. 12 (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) Okay. Can you point 13 me to where you have specific opinions with regards to 14 Drew Adams in your report? 15 I specifically cover the medical Α. 16 information. I do have a paragraph in there where 17 I -- I go through the details of what the allegations 18 are, and --Is that Paragraph 12? 19 Ο. 20 Α. I -- yes, that is correct. 21 0. Is that a description of the case details? 22 That is correct. Α. 23 Is there any opinion specific as to Drew Q. 24 Adams in Paragraph 12? 25 Α. No.

- Q. Is there any opinion specific as to Drew Adams anywhere else in the report?
- A. No. My opinions are based on -- near the end of my declaration, I specifically state the concerns in a -- in a general sense of all patients that are -- are faced with this particular condition. And I think that that certainly is pertinent to Drew Adams in addition to the many other individuals that are suffering from this condition.
- Q. Okay. But none of those opinions are specific to Drew Adams?
- A. They are applicable to all individuals that present as Drew Adams does.
 - MR. GONZALEZ-PAGAN: Move to strike as nonresponsive.
 - Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) Are they specific to Drew Adams?
- A. They include Drew Adams. They are not limited to Drew Adams.
 - Q. Would you agree that those opinions are general in nature and not specific to Drew Adams?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Having never met, evaluated, examined or treated Drew Adams, can you make an assessment as to whether Drew Adams suffers from gender dysphoria?

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clinical guidelines?

- A. I would let them know that the clinic was available, and I would let the people in that clinic, if they chose to attend that clinic, present all of the information for the basis for their treatment approach.
- Q. So you wouldn't inform the patient that the treatment is in accordance with the clinical quidelines?
- A. I'm envisioning the hypothetical situation that you're talking about, and the extent of my normal clinic visit and how much time I have to present all of the -- the important aspects of clinical care, and I'm envisioning that there would be a limit of the -- the length of that conversation if I was going to adequately address all of the other relevant issues that I was caring that patient for [sic].
- Q. Would you suggest that the patient seek conversion therapy?
 - A. No.
- Q. Is the treatment at the transgender center consistent with the position and recommendations of the American Medical Association?
 - A. I -- as I understand it, yes.
 - Q. Is the treatment at the transgender center

Page 59 1 consistent with the position and recommendations of 2 the American Academy of Pediatricians? 3 Α. The AAP, yes. Is the treatment at the transgender center 4 Q. 5 consistent with the position and recommendations of 6 the American Psychiatric Association? 7 I don't follow those as closely, but I would 8 assume yes. 9 Is the treatment at the transgender center Ο. 10 consistent with the position and clinical guidelines 11 of the American Psychological Association? 12 The same as the last answer. To my 13 knowledge, I don't know them specifically, but I would 14 say yes. 15 0. Okay. Let's go a little bit for some of 16 your memberships. You're a member of the American 17 Medical Association, right? 18 Α. No. 19 Were you a member of the American Medical Ο. 20 Association? 21 I was in the past, yes. Α. 22 Are you a member of the American Academy of Q. 23 Pediatricians? 24 Α. Yes. 25 Is your position in your report and as you Q.

sit -- sit here today consistent with the position of the American Academy of Pediatricians?

- A. It is not consistent with the -- the opinion that is presented by the AAP. Again, I will note that is not a -- a position that has been voted upon by the entire membership of the AAP.
- Q. Are the -- all the positions adopted by the AAP voted upon by the membership?
- A. No. In fact, they're usually voted on by a very small select committee, a -- a very minority of the entire academy.
- Q. So the position of the AAP on this subject has been adopted via its regular procedures?
- A. Yes. Which -- which I would add do not involve membership of the entire academy.
 - Q. Are you a member of the Endocrine Society?
 - A. Yes, I am.
 - Q. Are your positions here today and in your report consistent with the clinical guidelines of the Endocrine Society?
 - A. They are at odds with the recommendations that are put forward, the guidelines that are put forward for the treatment of gender dysphoria.
 - Q. You're a member of the Pediatric Endocrine Society, correct?

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A. Yes, I am.

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- Q. Are your positions here today and the positions in your report consistent with the positions adopted by the Pediatric Endocrine Society?
- A. They are not, and I've actually written to the PES on more than one occasion with my opinions and invited them to dialogue about the -- the scientific evidence that I have in dispute from -- that are included per the recommendations.
 - Q. And we've requested those comments, right?
- A. Yes. And everything I have on file, I gave you everything I have. I don't have records of anything that I did not send you.
- Q. You have published a body of literature in your career, correct? Right?
 - A. That is correct.
 - Q. How many peer-reviewed articles have you written and published regarding gender identity?
 - A. I have not published peer-reviewed articles on gender identity.
 - Q. How many peer-reviewed articles have you written and published regarding transgender people?
 - A. I have not written peer -- peer-reviewed papers on that topic.
 - Q. How many peer-reviewed articles have you

Page 62 written and published regarding the treatment of 1 2 transgender children and adolescents? 3 Α. Again, as peer-reviewed, I have not written 4 any. 5 Q. How many peer-reviewed articles have you 6 written and published regarding the treatment of 7 gender dysphoria? 8 Α. I have not written any. 9 How many peer-reviewed articles have you 0. 10 written and published regarding the use of restrooms 11 by transgender students? 12 I have not written any. 13 How many studies have you conducted 0. 14 regarding gender identity? 15 Α. Conducted, I have not conducted any, but I 16 am in the process right now of responding to a 17 research funding announcement by the NIH to be able to 18 engage in that research. 19 But just to be clear, you haven't conducted 20 any as we stand here today? 21 That is correct. Α. 22 And you -- have you submitted that proposal 23 to the NIH? 24 I -- I have not. A 25 How many studies have you conducted Q.

Page 63 1 regarding transgender people? 2 Α. I have not. 3 Q. How many studies have you conducted 4 regarding the treatment of transgender children and 5 adolescents? 6 Α. I have not. 7 How many studies have you conducted Q. regarding the treatment for gender dysphoria? 8 9 I have not. Α. 10 Q. How many studies have you conducted 11 regarding the use of restrooms by transgender 12 students? 13 Α. I have not. 14 So you have no experience treating gender Q. 15 dysphoria, right? 16 Α. Treating gender dysphoria? 17 Ο. Yes. I have not -- as I said earlier, I have not 18 Α. 19 treated patients with gender dysphoria. 20 Q. And you have no experience conducting 21 studies regarding transgender youth and adolescents, 22 correct? 23 Α. Conducting studies, I have not, as I said, 24 have not participated in any studies to date. 25 And you have no experience conducting Q.

studies regarding gender dysphoria?

- A. I have not conduct -- as I said, I have not conducted any studies on gender dysphoria.
- Q. Nor have you published any literature regard -- regard -- peer-reviewed literature regarding gender dysphoria?
 - A. Peer-reviewed, no.
- Q. So having no experience treating transgender patients for gender dysphoria, no experience conducting studies regarding transgender people, and no experience publishing peer-reviewed literature regarding transgender people, you consider -- do you consider yourself an expert on transgender issues?

MR. KOSTELNIK: Object to form.

- A. I am a physician/scientist who has extensively read the literature for the merits, as I do in any other condition, and I believe I have expertise related to my role as a physician and a scientist and a pediatric endocrinologist to adequately assess the quality and quantity of the literature that's present on this area.
- Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) And having no experience treating gender dysphoria, no experience conducting studies -- scratch that.

Let's talk a little bit about your article,

Page 83 1 with that, so --2 Is "Growing Pains" your only article on Q. 3 transgender people and gender dysphoria? Α. 4 Yes. 5 Are you familiar with the St. John Paul II 6 Bioethics Center? 7 Absolutely. Α. Is this St. John Paul II Bioethics Center a 8 0. 9 religiously affiliated institution? 10 Α. Yes, it is. 11 Is it part of the Holy Apostles College and 0. 12 Seminary? 13 Α. Yes, it is. 14 Did you speak at the St. John Paul II Q. 15 Bioethics Center just three days ago, on Friday, 16 November 17th? 17 Α. I did, yes. 18 During your speech last Friday, did you --19 you said, "The identity of the individual is 20 interactively linked to the body and the soul of the 21 person." Is that right? 22 MR. KOSTELNIK: Form. 23 Repeat that again, just so I make sure you 24 said that accurately. 25 (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) During your speech Q.

Page 84 1 last Friday, you said, "The identity of the individual 2 is interactively linked to the body and soul of a 3 person." Is that correct? MR. KOSTELNIK: Form. 4 5 Α. That is correct. 6 (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) During your speech 0. 7 last Friday, you said about being transgender, that, in fact, it probably goes back to some of the early 8 9 heresies in the church; is that correct? 10 Α. The introduction that I was providing to 11 that audience was trying to put the context of the 12 discussion in the proper framework, and I specifically 13 made the statement that I am not a philosopher, that 14 I'm going to be talking about issues of science and 15 medicine. And it was an introduction to that talk 16 to -- for that audience. 17 Okay. Do you know who Caitlyn Jenner is? Q. 18 Α. Yes, I do. 19 Caitlyn Jenner is a transgender woman, Ο. 20 correct? 21 MR. KOSTELNIK: Form. 22 Caitlyn Jenner, formerly known as Bruce Α. 23 Jenner, is somebody that has been widely advertised 24 in -- in the media related to the gender transition 25 that -- that Caitlyn underwent.

- Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) Is Caitlyn Jenner transgender?
 - A. By definition, yes.

- Q. In referring to a picture of Caitlyn Jenner, did you not say these pictures are often disturbing?
- A. I did. And that was the slide -specifically was the statement, not Caitlyn Jenner,
 but there were two other pictures presented in that
 talk of children saying I hate my body. That was what
 I was referring to.
- Q. Just to be clear, when it comes to the treatment of transgender people and gender dysphoria, your only publication is in a religiously-affiliated journal and you've spoken to -- about the topic to religiously-affiliated institutions?

MR. KOSTELNIK: Form.

- A. I have offered to speak at all institutions that have invited me. And to date, yes, that was -- that was the institute that -- that invited me to speak last Friday.
- Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) When did you first become interested in the matter of transgender people and the treatment of -- for gender dysphoria?
- A. It was about five to six years ago, as chief of our Division of Endocrinology, when the question

Page 87 1 claims that were made by Drew Adams were 2 scientifically justified and accurate. 3 Q. And just to be clear, you're not a psychiatrist? 4 5 Α. That is correct. 6 Ο. And you're not a psychologist? 7 Α. That is correct. 8 And you're not a mental healthcare provider Q. 9 of any kind? 10 That is correct. Α. 11 Have you ever been a school administrator Q. 12 for a public school? 13 Α. I have not. 14 Have you ever been a teacher for a public Q. 15 school? 16 Α. Not for a public school, unless you consider 17 my role as an educator at the university of -- or 18 Washington University a teacher. 19 Let me clarify. Have you ever been a 20 teacher for K to 12 education? 21 Α. No. 22 Have you spoken with school administrators 23 with regards to the access to restrooms for 24 transgender students? 25 Α. No.

- Q. Just to clarify, did you submit an expert report or a rebuttal report?
- A. An -- an expert opinion report. And I also submitted -- you requested information from prior litigation, and that included a rebuttal report.
- Q. Okay. So you know the difference between a rebuttal report and an expert report?
 - A. Yes, I do.

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- Q. Okay. And the -- it is your understanding that the report that you submitted in this case is an expert report, not a rebuttal report?
- A. That's my understanding. Again, I would rely on the legal counsel to -- to clarify if I'm in error there.
 - Q. What did you do to write your report?
- A. Start back from five to six years ago when I started investigating the scientific information.
 - I -- I -- I've gathered the information for the last five to six years, and initially I was not doing that for the purpose of writing an expert declaration. In fact, at the beginning I had no clue that I would ever be serving in this capacity.

But I drew upon that information that I obtained in the reading of the literature over the past five to six years, my conversations with parents

- A. I provided everything that I have access to right now that I can recall. I'm only stating that there are likely other papers that I do not have access to, because I did not keep track of it at the time that I read them or looked at them.
- Q. Okay. Have you spoken with Dr. Allan Josephson?
 - A. Yes, I have.
 - O. When?

- A. On multiple occasions.
- Q. Can you please describe?
- A. I met Dr. Josephson within the last year as -- it was probably in the spring at some point in time, the first time that I actually met him. We've had a number of conversations over this past year, specifically related to his expertise as -- as a psychiatrist and mine as an endocrinologist. I have drawn upon him for questions related to psychiatric issues that -- that I did not have expertise in, to gather his opinion.
- Q. In what capacity did you first counter-interact with Dr. Josephson?
- A. It was at a conference that was put together to bring experts from various disciplines to this question of -- of gender dysphoria.

Page 93 1 Q. Who put that conference together? 2 Α. The Alliance Defending Freedom. 3 0. The Alliance Defending Freedom is a religiously-affiliated institution, isn't it? 4 5 Α. If you say so. I don't pay attention to 6 what their religious affiliation is. 7 When was this conference? 0. It was in the -- I don't know the exact 8 Α. 9 date, but it was in the spring. 10 0. Where was this conference? 11 Α. It was in Phoenix. 12 Aside from you and Dr. Josephson, do you recall any other experts, physicians or clinicians 13 14 that attended this conference? 15 Yes, there were -- there was several other Α. 16 psychiatrists and psychologists. I don't remember 17 their specific names, unfortunately. There were 18 people that are in the social sciences. There was one 19 other endocrinologist. I'm trying to remember who 20 else was there. There were several lawyers from the 21 ADA. 22 Do you have any documents pertaining to this Q. 23 conference? 24 Not that I saved, no. Α. 25 Just to clarify, is there anything you Q.

university, they offer gender-affirming treatment for gender dysphoric youth?

A. Yes, they do.

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Q. Do they offer reparative treatment as a treatment for gender dysphoria at Boston Children's Hospital?

MR. KOSTELNIK: Form.

- A. The word reparative therapy covers a lot of connotation by different people but to my understanding, they do not make any specific effort in counseling to lead to the realignment of gender with sex, if that's what you mean by conversion therapy.
- Q. Before you started researching the issues of dysphoria around five years ago, had you met with Dr. Spack then?

MR. KOSTELNIK: Form.

- A. Prior to five years ago, I do not recall a specific encounter yet. I'm sure we interacted at some point at one of the international meetings.
- Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) In Paragraph 7, you state that you have met with parents of children with gender dysphoria; is that correct?
 - A. That is correct.
- Q. In what capacity have you met with the parents of transgender children?

- Again, this was at the very early time frame Α. when I was trying to investigate the claims for the treatment and care, and I wanted to get as comprehensive of a viewpoint as I could. The first encounter I had was with a mother of an organization called Trans Parent Child, and I sat down for lunch with her for an extended period of time, more to listen to the experience that she had in countering a transgender child that she had.
- Q. With how many parents of transgender children have you met?
- Met or spoken on the phone? I think lately many of them have been over the telephone. say it's less than a dozen, but it's quite a few, and it's actually increased certainly since the publication of the "New Atlantis" article.
- So in the last five years, you've spoken to less than a dozen parents of transgender children?
 - Α. Yes.
- Q. When you first met with the parent of the -associated with the organization Trans Parent, was this before you dealt -- scratch that.
- 23 MR. GONZALEZ-PAGAN: You're going to object anyway.
 - (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) When you met with Q.

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- the parent associated with the association Trans

 Parent, had you already delved into the literature

 regarding gender dysphoria?
- A. I was starting the process. It was very early on, so I don't recall the exact timing. I had read some papers, but I was still in the very early investigative phase.
- Q. You said you have been contacted by parents since the publishing of your article "Growing Pains." Is that correct?
 - A. That is correct.
- Q. How many have contacted you since the publishing of the article "Growing Pains"?
 - A. I'm not keeping track of that.
- Q. Less than 35?
 - A. It may be more than five. Probably less than a dozen.
 - Q. What did you discuss with the parents of the transgender children that have contacted you since the publishing of your article "Growing Pains"?
 - A. I specifically discussed the context of my "New Atlantis" article in my role as a physician, which I always take as being a teacher. I try to educate them on my understanding of the condition and the treatment paradigm that was being offered to their

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- access the bathrooms as the cause of Drew's distress is not supported.
 - Q. But you're not a mental health provider, right?
 - A. That is correct.
 - Q. And you've never met with Drew, right?
 - A. That is correct.
 - Q. Let's go back to the meetings with parents that you had when you were first delving into this topic?
- 11 A. Very good.

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- Q. You discussed that you met with a parent associated with an organization called Trans Parent; is that correct?
- A. That is correct.
 - Q. What did you learn from that meeting?
- A. I learned quite few things. The most important thing that I learned, and that was what I was actually seeking in the interaction, was to really understand the suffering that was going on in this family. I wanted to understand the dynamics of what was going on in the family, the approach that the parents had in dealing with the presentation of their child, what they had attempted to do to address this particular issue, and at that point in time, I was

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approaching this in a purely investigative manner. I did more listening than anything else, asking questions about their lived experience.

- Q. What did the parent tell you?
- A. Well, that was many years ago, but I will try to summarize my recollection of that conversation. This was with the mother. And she shared that this child, who was a prepubertal in early grade school, told her, when the mother was talking -- they were combing hair or something of that nature -- that she would -- he, at that time, was a girl, so she was referring to him as a girl, and that the parents' reaction initially was shock, fear, trying to understand what was going on, trying to be able at that time -- this was early on in this resurgence -- or emergence, I should say of this discussion that's going on socially, so there wasn't, at that time, a lot of resources being published on the Internet.

So she shared her attempt to look at what experience people have had with this particular condition. And I saw at that time, certainly a parent that was desiring to do the best for their child, but having questions that were not answered, and at that time, with the information I had, I was certainly not able to provide any answers. And, in fact, at this

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point in time, I don't think I would have been able to specifically answer the questions that she had as far as long-term outcomes, because we don't have that information. It was a very respectful conversation. It was very helpful. I think that it was mutually beneficial, but, again, the purpose was for me to understand this particular family and their experience with transgender identity.

- Q. What is the organization Trans Parent?
- A. All I know is it's a -- it's supposed to be a support group, and I think that the parents themselves, the woman I talked to at that time was trying to get out information so other people understood what they were experiencing.
- Q. In that meeting with the parents of a transgender -- let me scratch that.

The next set of the questions I'm just going to be focusing on that one parent.

- A. Okay.
- Q. In that meeting with the parent of the transgender child, did you ever tell the parent that their child was not normal and would never be normal?
- A. I did not, because I was still investigating and trying to understand what was going on.
 - Q. In that meeting with the parent of that

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transgender child, did you ever tell that parent that their transgender son was a girl and would never be a boy?

- A. I never said that, no.
- Q. In that meeting with the parent of that transgender child, have you ever told -- scratch that.

In that meeting with the parent of a transgender child, did you ever tell the parent that surgeries attempting to change sex was wrong and went against God's plan for humanity?

- A. No, not that I recall. That was many years ago, but I don't remember that, no.
- Q. In that meeting with the parents of the transgender child, did you not urge them to read Pope John Paul II's writing on gender to fully understand God's plan regarding gender?
- A. Thank you for reminding me. That was a long time ago, so this is bringing back some information. I believe that -- this was a personal conversation. This was a one-on-one conversation, and I think at the time that we began talking about that, she started relating her personal faith training, and I never back away from those conversations when people are asking me those questions, and I think that that's what led to that particular conversation.

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- in individuals. That was the intent of that statement, and I believe it is the useful statement for that purpose.
- Q. I get that, so I'm not -- and I'm not trying to be like moving to strike here all the time, and I'm not trying to, but the question is, do you think that the limitation that those studies don't distinguish between post-pubescent and pre-pubescent youth is important?
- A. I think that it is certainly something that needs to be considered, yes.
- Q. Okay. Do you think you should have disclosed that to the court?
 - MR. KOSTELNIK: Object to form.
- A. For the purposes of putting my declaration together, I believe that I adequately summarized my understanding of the situation related to Drew Adams' case.
- Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) Drew Adams, by your own testimony, is a post-pubescent teenager?
 - A. That is correct.
- Q. Don't you think that that limitation should have been disclosed to the court?
- MR. KOSTELNIK: Object to form.
 - A. Drew Adams was also a late onset gender

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dysphoric individual, and that is a population that was not covered in these studies, and there is no evidence as to what the outcome is in those individuals.

Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) Okay. So in any event, the studies, then, that you cite are inapplicable to Drew Adams?

MR. KOSTELNIK: Form.

- A. I believe that they are applicable to him in the context of what is known, and I will assert there's so much that is unknown about this condition, I think it is relevant based on the quality of evidence that is and needs to be considered by the court.
- Q. Are there any other limitations to the studies to which you cite in Paragraph 28?
- A. There are many limitations to the studies. Most of the earlier studies had very small sample lines. There is -- again, since they were done over an extended period of time, the cultural milieu has changed, and so I think that there are many, many limitations of the studies, and that certainly needs to be considered. The fact is that they've all shown consistently the same result despite the fact that they were done in different patient populations during

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- marked as Exhibit C -- 6. Can you please mark -- go
 to the Page 2205. It's the last page.
 - A. Yeah, okay. Okay.
 - Q. Could you please read for me the conclusions -- well, actually, let's go back. Do you recognize this document?
 - A. Yes, I do.

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- Q. What is it?
- A. It -- well, it's a treatment -- an update on the treatment and outcomes of precocious puberty.
- Q. Okay. Is this a peer-reviewed journal article?
- A. It looks like it's a -- a statement. I'm not sure exactly. It's a JC&M, so it probably went through some -- a peer-reviewed process, yes.
 - Q. Okay. Let's go to the conclusions, please.
- A. Okay.
- Q. Could you please read the conclusions for me?
 - A. "Precocious puberty is a common problem seen in pediatric endocrinology practice. Identification of the child with pathological pubertal development allows for accurate diagnosis and application of current treatment strategies. Recent improvements in therapeutic agents allow for a complete suppression of

CPP with less discomfort to the patient and improvement of height outcomes, particularly those less than six years old."

"Our major gaps in understanding lie in the area of long-term outcomes, including endocrine and metabolic effects of precocious puberty. The most striking deficit is the lack of long-term data on the psychological and behavioral effects of precocious puberty and the effects of GNRHA treatment. We can anticipate additional information on these aspects in the years to come."

- Q. Is it safe to say that this article concludes that there's a lack of long-term data on the effects of the treatment of precocious puberty with puberty blockers?
 - A. That is correct.
- Q. Yet you said that you provide puberty blockers as a treatment for precocious puberty?
 - A. That is correct.
- Q. How does that square with your concern of providing gender-affirming treatment due to the lack of long-term data?
- MR. KOSTELNIK: Form.
 - A. So any decision that a practitioner makes is made on a risk/benefit analysis, and the risk/benefit

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Q. Are you aware that the AMA, quote, "opposes the use of reparative or conversion therapy for sexual orientation or gender identity"?

MR. KOSTELNIK: Form.

- A. I'm aware of the WPATH saying that, and I -- I believe it may also be in the AMA statement as well.
- Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) Are you aware that the American Academy of Pediatricians has stated that, quote, "In no situation is a referral for conversion or reparative therapy indicated"?
 - A. I'm aware of that statement, yes.
- Q. Are you aware that a publication by the American Psychological Association and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services states that interventions -- quote, "Interventions aimed at a fixed outcome, such as gender conformity or heterosexual orientation, including those aimed at changing gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation are coercive, can be harmful and should not be part of the behavior health treatment"?

MR. KOSTELNIK: Form.

- A. I am aware of that statement, but there is no scientific evidence to support that statement.
- Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) On what basis do you disagree with that statement?

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- A. I never said that I was advocating for one position to the other. I merely said that there's no science to back up the assertion that this is -- needs to be mandated.
- Q. So do you believe that Drew Adams should not be allowed to use the boys' restroom?

MR. KOSTELNIK: Object to form.

- A. I have never made a school policy. I'm not a witness making any opinions about what the school policy is. I'm merely stating what the science is behind the treatment paradigm that is currently being advocated.
- Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) So you do not have any opinion as to whether the current policy should or should not be implemented at St. John's County School District?
- A. That would require me to have experience as a school administrator or making school policies, which I do not have that experience.
- Q. So again, can you say whether the current policy of the School Board of St. John's County should or should not be implemented?

MR. KOSTELNIK: Form.

A. Again, I said I don't have the qualifications as far as making school policy to make

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outcome as far as persistence or desistence.

- Q. When did you first speak to Dr. Josephson about this case?
 - A. Oh, I believe it was within the last month.
- Q. Did you speak to Dr. Josephson before or after you were retained as an expert in this case?
 - A. After.

- Q. Just cleaning up a little bit. Going back to 2012 and 2013 again, you testified that you spoke to Dr. Norman Spack around 2012 and 2013?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Can you please describe that conversation for us?
- A. Dr. Spack had come to Washington University and presented his treatment approach in the context of all the discussion that was going on at that time as to whether we should initiate the transgender treatment program. In addition to the talk and the question session after that, we had a panel or actually a round table discussion with a number of the different providers, not only within the Endocrine Division, but also with a representative from adolescent medicine, our psychologist, a number of different individuals. This was at the time when the Endocrine Society acknowledged that this care was

controversial, that it was unsettled as far as the science was concerned, and there was lots of discussion going on not only at my university, but at the national level.

The discussion at that time revolved around all of -- much of the data that I had not fully read. I read some of the papers, but I certainly hadn't read all of them, and there were differing opinions expressed at that point in time. The individuals that have gone on to direct that clinic and -- were certainly taking one approach, in my opinion, even at that time, made comments that -- of where my questions were related to that condition.

And I distinctly remember, and this actually led into the "New Atlantis" article at the very end, Dr. Spack recognized that I was unconvinced by the level of scientific evidence supporting this care, and I distinctly remember him saying, "Well, if you can't accept cross-hormone treatment, at least do puberty suppression because it's safe and reversible." And that's almost a verbatim quote, and I've heard this by many other individuals as well. And that prompted me to investigate the claims about whether that truly was safe and reversible, and that led to the "New Atlantis" publication.

- Q. What were the opinions expressed by Dr. Spack besides saying that puberty blockers were safe and reversible?
- He essentially made the argument based upon Α. the Dutch experience that this was necessary to prevent individuals from committing suicide, that this was a life-saving intervention, and he took quite great pride in being able to participate at that stage of his career in that intervention. As far as the data presented at that time that this was a long-term solution, was not offered by Dr. Spack, and certainly the concerns related to the medical risks, and I believe at that point in time we were talking a little bit about philosophical discussions as well, as far as what it means to be a man and what it means to be a It was a very respectful conversation, but at the level of scientific evidence to support what he was recommending, I found it completely lacking.
- Q. What do you mean by philosophical conversations about what it means to be a man and what it means to be a woman?
- A. I mean exactly what it says. I don't remember the details of the conversation.
 - (Phone ringing. Whereupon an off-the-record discussion was held.)

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- Q. (By Mr. Gonzalez-Pagan) Do you need me to restate the question?
 - A. Please.

- Q. What do you mean by the philosophical conversations about what it means to be a man and what it means to be a woman?
- A. I would say it includes the discussion of -from a biological standpoint about what it means to be
 a women. At that point in time there was lots of
 discussion about the terms "sex gender," "gender
 identity" and "sexual orientation" that was included
 in that discussion. There was, I believe at that
 point in time, a lot of conflicting assertions that
 were being made by different people about whether sex
 and gender were the same or different, and the
 arguments were being made pro and con. More specific
 details, I don't recall.
- Q. And you stated that there was controversy about the provision of care for gender dysphoria at the time in the Endocrine Society?
- A. That is correct. My first recollection was at one of the national Pediatric Endocrine Society meetings when this new paradigm was introduced. And as I recall, there was a very strong reaction by a number of members of the audience related to what was

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amount of experience that somebody who is a clinical -- a full-time clinician versus -- now, I -- I know from my own experience many people that are listed on those clinical studies were not the ones that designed the trial. They're not the ones analyzing the data. Their role usually in those studies, as clinical faculty, are usually in filling out and the protocols that are present for those. And now the specifics of the trial that she's involved with, I would have to look in more detail to assess that in -- in greater detail.

- Q. Okay. Do you know what her role is?
- A. You'll have to tell me what the study is and -- and give me more information to be able to do that.
 - Q. Did you review Dr. Ehrensaft's expert -- expert report in this case?
 - A. I did.

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- Q. Have you published any peer-reviewed literature regarding gender dysphoria or transgender youth?
- A. These are questions that I've already answered, and the answer is no.
 - Q. Okay. Are you aware that Dr. Ehrensaft has published a number of peer-reviewed articles regarding

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